# **NCRecovery.gov**





#### The North Carolina Office of Economic Recovery and Investment

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

#### American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report,

# **Perquimans County**

Perquimans County received more than \$16 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Perquimans County total.





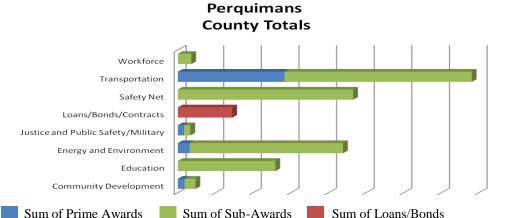
**New COPS:** 

1





Water/Sewer Projects: 2



Appliances rebated:

11

# Family homes financed: 9

**Perquimans County,** pop 13,453 at a glance:

#### Recovery Act Totals:

Grants: \$ 14,871,969.45 Loans: \$ 1,449,648

Total: \$16,321,617.45



The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

**Perquimans County schools** received \$2 million in education funding, including \$350,000 in Special Education funds, \$400,000 in Title I funds, \$1 million in SFSF funds, and \$200,000 in Race to the Top funding.



## **Family Assistance**

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Perguimans County, 9 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$1.4 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Perquimans County retailers sold 11 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



#### **Justice and Public Safety Programs**

ARRA increased funding to the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG). JAG funds were awarded both as a formula allocation to the State, for \$34.5 million, and grants distributed by the Governor's Crime Commission to various local governments and entities. In addition, \$21,853,798 went to 216 local governments across the state for various purposes in line with the requirements of the act. Finally, there is a federal competitive portion that was open to state or local government applicants.

The COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) awards grants to law enforcement agencies to hire and train community policing professionals, acquire and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, and develop and test innovative policing strategies. COPS funding also provides training and technical assistance to community members and local government leaders and all levels of law. In order to help leverage the efficiency of these programs Governor Perdue set aside additional funding to help pay for uniforms and equipment for local governments who have new COPS funded positions.

In Perquimans County, the Town of Hertford had 1 officer were funded through COPS Grants, worth \$164,000. Additionally, the Governor's Crime Commission made a grant of \$4,000 to the Town of Hertford to help outfit and equip the new officer.



### **Environment and Natural Resources Programs**

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

**In Perquimans County,** Perquimans County Government and the Town of Hertford received water and sewer grants worth more than \$3.7 million.

# Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

**Perquimans County** residents received \$2.7 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$1 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$800,000 in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

#### **Perquimans County Feature Story**

#### **Perquimans Uses Recovery Funds for Water and Sewer Projects**

The Recovery Act included \$7.22 billion for projects and programs administered by the USEPA. These programs were designed to protect and promote both "green" jobs and a healthier environment. Almost \$6 billion of this total fund was devoted to infrastructure programs to help communities with water quality and wastewater infrastructure needs, and to provide much needed work to contractors. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund program, in place since 1987, received \$4 billion, including funds for Water Quality Management Planning Grants. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program, in place since 1997, received \$2 billion.

States established priorities based on public health and environmental factors, in addition to readiness to proceed to construction, and identify which high-impact projects received funding.

The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources competitively awarded \$68,641,807 in sewer projects to 51 projects in 32 counties, and \$64,285,048 in drinking water projects to 65 projects in 41 counties.





Perquimans County received \$3.5 million in funds for drinking water and waste water projects. The drinking water project renovates an extremely aged water treatment plant in the town of Hertford.

The grant will pay to replace the existing aerator detention tank, and install a new high service pump station. The project also replaces the existing clear well and adds new chemical feed systems for improved treated water quality. This Recovery-funded renovation created 10 jobs over the life of the project, and will provide cleaner water and easier operations for years to come. The treatment plant serves the entire Hertford area, bringing water to the entire population of more than 17,000 people.

### **Appendix, Perquimans County breakout**

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role <sup>i</sup>	Prime Amount <sup>ii</sup>	Unique Sub Awards <sup>iii</sup>	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) <sup>iv</sup>
	Bonds		Р			\$0.00	- co concy
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$1,449,648.00	
Department of Agriculture	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$968,479.40		
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Assisted Housing Stability and Energy and Green Retrofit Investments Program (Recovery Act Funded)	Hertford Housing Authority	P	\$319,490.00		\$0.00	\$319,490.00
	Public Housing Capital Fund Formula (Recovery Act Funded)	Ceiling & Floor Restorations, Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$108,870.00
		Harper Aiken Partners	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$4,750.00
		Hertford Housing Authority	P	\$178,525.00		\$0.00	\$178,525.00
Department of Justice	Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	Hertford, Town Of	P	\$164,644.00		\$0.00	\$164,644.00
	Recovery Act - Eward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program/ Grants to States and Territories	Hertford, Town Of	S	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	
Department of Labor	Unemployment	Multiple	S		\$2,799,631.27		
Environmental Protection Agency	Insurance Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds	Individuals Hertford, Town Of	S	\$0.00	\$751,816.00	\$0.00	
	Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	Perquimans, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00	
Federal Highway Administration	Highway Planning and Construction	Barnhill Contracting Company	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$2,144,286.45
				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00

		North Carolina Department Of Transportation	Р	\$2,648,375.00		\$0.00	\$2,648,375.00
		Transportation		\$186,500.00		\$0.00	\$186,500.00
Food and Nutrition Service	Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	Perquimans County School District # 720	S	\$0.00	\$28,219.36	\$0.00	
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		Р		\$2,760.77	\$0.00	
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Education Technology State Grants, Recovery Act	Perquimans County School District # 720	S	\$0.00	\$840,348.65	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Perquimans County School District # 720	S	\$0.00	\$1,084,902.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Perquimans County School District # 720	S	\$0.00	\$237,907.00	\$0.00	
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Perquimans County School District # 720	S	\$0.00	\$401,757.00	\$0.00	
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Perquimans County School District # 720	S	\$0.00	\$360,364.00	\$0.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	Р		\$894,250.00		
<b>Grand Total</b>				\$3,497,534.00	\$11,374,435.45	\$1,449,648.00	\$5,755,440.45

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ii</sup> Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to <a href="www.federalreporting.gov">www.federalreporting.gov</a>

Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iv</sup> Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.